Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1/1988 - MARCH 31/ 1989

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

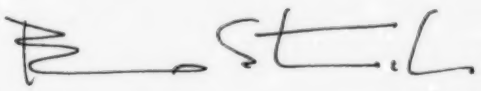
90-06599/

The Honourable David C. Lam
Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia
Government House
1401 Rockland Avenue
Victoria, British Columbia
V8S 1V9

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989.

Yours truly,



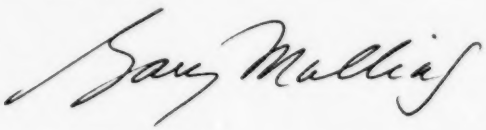
Bruce Strachan
Minister

The Honourable Bruce Strachan
Minister
Advanced Education and Job Training
Room 326, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Minister:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1989.

Yours truly,



Gary Mullins
Deputy Minister

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION 2

The Ministry's mission 2

The Ministry's structure 2

Highlights of 1988/89 3

Organizational Structure 3

UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND INSTITUTES 4

Access 5

Quality 6

Planning and co-ordination 8

Detailed information on post-secondary education in BC 10

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 20

Assisting research and development 21

Developing human resources 23

Developing entrepreneurial opportunities 24

Science awareness 25

JOB TRAINING, APPRENTICESHIP, AND LABOUR MARKET POLICY 26

Job training and apprenticeship 26

Labour market policy 28

WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT 29

Career development for women in the public service 29

Issues and programs for BC women 30

Co-operative actions with the federal government 30

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES 31

Financial Services Branch 31

Information Systems Branch 31

Personnel Services Branch 32

Introduction

THE MINISTRY'S MISSION

The mission of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training is to promote the advancement of knowledge and human potential leading to:

- an increase in the standard of living through an increase in employability, productivity and earning potential, and scientific and technological know-how of British Columbians
- enhancement of the quality of life through the application of technology to foster sustainable development, to help solve environmental problems, and to promote environmentally "clean" industries and employment in skilled jobs with higher levels of job satisfaction
- promotion of equality of opportunity in the system of post-secondary education and skill development for all segments of the population, and more specifically the promotion of opportunities for women, youth, handicapped, natives, and other disadvantaged groups
- social and cultural enrichment through advanced education and the fostering of support for the democratic process.

THE MINISTRY'S STRUCTURE

In 1988-89 the Ministry fulfilled its mission in four areas of responsibility:

- ***Universities, Colleges and Institutes***

  Three universities--the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria--offered programs to about 55,000 students. Three institutes, the Open Learning Agency, and 15 colleges with more than 100 branches offered a variety of programs to nearly 80,000 British Columbians of all ages.

  The Ministry co-ordinated and helped fund this extensive public post-secondary educational system.

- ***Job Training, Apprenticeship, and Labour Market Policy***

  The Ministry provided job training and apprenticeship programs that helped employers offer and employees gain new skills. More formal development of long-term policy began through the analysis of issues and trends in the province's labour market.

- ***Science and Technology***

  The Ministry's programs assisted research and development, promoted training and education, encouraged entrepreneurship and innovation in technological opportunities, and fostered science education and awareness.

- ***The Women's Secretariat***

  The Ministry developed and supported programs to upgrade women's skills and opportunities both among the general public and specifically in the public service.

Policy and Planning staff administered a number of federal- provincial, interprovincial, and international agreements in these areas. Administration and Support Services staff managed financial services, information systems development and operation, and personnel services. Public Affairs staff provided a broad range of communications services.

Introduction

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1988/89

The Universities, Colleges and Institutes Division sponsored a major inquiry into access to post-secondary education in the province which involved extensive public consultation on issues such as region, access, native participation, and literacy. The report of the inquiry led the Ministry to formulate "Access For All", a strategy for action to increase substantially in the long term the levels of participation in post-secondary education.

The Job Training, Apprenticeship, and Labour Market Policy Division opened the first of a series of Training and Enterprise Centres to be located around the province as one-stop centres to provide employers with information and assistance on job training and apprenticeship programs.

The Science and Technology Division gained Cabinet approval for a new science and technology policy and for making the TRIUMF- KAON project at the University of British Columbia the province's top scientific priority. The Science and Technology Development Fund provided grants to 80 innovative projects.

The Women's Secretariat announced a commitment to introduce a government-wide program of career development for BC's women public servants.

Ministry of Advanced Education & Job Training
Organizational Structure (as of September 1, 1988)

Universities, Colleges & Institutes

The public post-secondary educational system of British Columbia in 1988-89 consisted of 22 institutions serving about 134,000 students of all ages: three public universities, three institutes, the Open Learning Agency, and 15 colleges (with more than 100 branches). The government's role in the overall supervision of this large system is performed by the Universities, Colleges and Institutes Division.

The year saw an important change to the system with the creation of the Open Learning Agency. This new body was formed from the merger of the former Open Learning Institute with the Knowledge Network, an educational broadcasting system. Overall, the approximate enrolments, full-time and part-time, were as follows: 55,000 in the universities, 17,000 in the institutes, 5,000 in the Open Learning Agency, and 57,000 in the 15 colleges.

In 1988-89 the post-secondary education system in British Columbia had about 97,000 "full-time equivalent" students in total, of which 63 per cent (61,000) were in academic courses, which were offered in all types of institutions, and 37 per cent (36,000) were in non-academic courses, which were offered everywhere except universities.

Two broad goals guided most of the Division's activities in 1988-89: improving **access** to post-secondary educational resources and services in the province and improving the **quality** of those resources and services:

- ***Access***

The government wishes to increase public participation in post-secondary education. There should be increases in the number of persons taking educational courses, in the number of courses they take, and in the proportion who complete their courses. There should also be increases in the number of persons taking course programs for certificates, diplomas, and degrees, and increases in the proportion who complete those programs.

Special emphasis should be given to participation by groups traditionally under-represented in post-secondary education: women, residents of remote areas, natives, the disabled, and so on.

- ***Quality***

The quality of post-secondary educational services offered and resources available must be maintained and should be improved where possible. Laboratory equipment, teaching facilities, and library resources need to be kept up to date. New faculty must be hired to replace retiring faculty, and all faculty must have opportunities for professional development. New courses and programs are required, and research capabilities need to be expanded.

To advance these goals the Ministry develops and implements programs aimed at access and quality objectives.

The Ministry also, in its supervisory role on a continuing basis, plans and co-ordinates the operation of the post-secondary institutions as a complete educational system and provides stable and adequate funding for those institutions.

ACCESS

In 1988/89, several important steps were taken towards the goal of improving access to post-secondary education. The most important was the planning of a multi-million dollar initiative entitled "Access For All".

Access For All

Late in the previous year a special inquiry into access to post- secondary education in British Columbia had been established. In 1988/89 the inquiry was conducted, with eight regional access committees and one provincial committee gathering information and opinion through open public meetings, surveys, and interviews. In all, more than 5,000 briefs and representations were received. In October 1988 the report of the inquiry was released, presenting its findings and recommendations.

In response to and in keeping with the report's recommendations, the Ministry developed a new strategy entitled "Access For All". Highlights of the Access For All strategy included the following:

- government acceptance of the concept of a self- governing, degree-granting institution for northern British Columbia
- planning for full university degree programs in Okanagan College, Cariboo College, and Malaspina College
- government support for university degree opportunities through Emily Carr College of Art and Design
- government mandate for Simon Fraser University, Kwantlen College, Douglas College, and Fraser Valley College to plan for additional college and university programs in the Fraser Valley
- implementation of expanded Adult Basic Education programs and preparation of support materials
- funding of $690 million to be provided over six years for university degree programs, consisting of $210 million to expand facilities and $480 million in operating funds
- implementation of improved literacy training through cost-shared projects with the National Literacy Secretariat
- increased access for the disabled to advanced education programs.

Fulfillment of this new strategy will see the creation of 15,000 additional spaces in university programs in the province.

During the year the following steps were taken in support of the Access For All strategy:

- the Implementation Planning Group was created to design a plan for a self-governing, degree-granting institution in northern British Columbia
- an Advisory Committee on Post-Secondary Education for Native Learners was established to propose ways to improve Native participation
- a Council on Admissions and Transfers was formed to facilitate the transfer of course credits between institutions and to help develop common course credits and admission standards
- a Provincial Literacy Advisory Committee was established
- an Adult Basic Educational Materials Committee and an English as a Second Language Textbook Committee were formed to update bibliographies.

Distance Education

The term "distance education" refers to the delivery of post- secondary education to thousands of British Columbians who do not attend the educational institutions in person. The Distance Education program uses modern technology --

telecommunications, broadcast and computer networks, print packages, and audio and videotapes --to surmount geographical, social, time, and economic barriers to education in the province. The Distance Education Branch of the Programs Division facilitates the development and delivery of university and college programs in all areas of British Columbia.

Total enrolment in distance education courses is nearly 70,000, with more than three-quarters in credit courses.

Distance Education achievements in 1988-89 included the following:

- the Open Learning system offered more than 850 courses from non-credit offerings to university degrees
- province-wide planning councils were established to advise the Open University, Open College, and the Knowledge Network on educational priorities
- the Credit Bank was implemented in February 1989, allowing students to bank credits acquired through any post-secondary institution towards a degree
- distance education training programs were developed for the workplace
- the BC Internship Program was established, enabling Commonwealth scholars to study distance education techniques in British Columbia institutions
- a computerized information system, the Discovery Training Network, was launched to inform the public of courses available in the province
- The Interprovincial Territories Entrepreneurial Training Project was begun in 1988-89. This project to develop distance training programs was undertaken by Athabasca University in Alberta on behalf of British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

Student financial assistance

In 1988-89, through the Student Services Branch, the Ministry made available to post-secondary students about $137 million in loans and grants under federal and provincial student assistance programs. Award ceilings were raised substantially, and awards made under these programs rose accordingly, as follows:

- total awards increased by 11 per cent (from $124 million)
- the average award for all recipients rose 11 per cent (to $4,709)
- 13,353 university students (more than one-third of all full-timers) received an average of $4,909 (up 10 per cent)
- 12,186 students in colleges and institutes received an average of $4,478 (up 11 per cent)
- 3,577 BC students at out-of-province institutions received an average of $4,690 (up 13 per cent).

The large size of the average awards and the fact that the amounts are assigned from calculations of need in individual cases together indicate that these awards gave vital support to nearly 30,000 students.

In addition, about $19 million in grants were awarded by the BC government in 1988-89 to students of post-secondary institutions under 11 special grant programs directed to students in designated categories.

QUALITY

The year saw a number of advances towards the goal of improving the quality of educational services offered and resources available:

Universities, Colleges & Institutes

University Matching Program

Announced by the Premier in 1988, the University Matching Program is a six-year, $110 million program of matching grants -- $10 million the first year (1988/89) and $20 million a year thereafter, for the next five years (until 1993/94).

The program was established to encourage new and increased private sector donations of cash and gifts-in-kind to the three provincial public universities. Approved donations are matched dollar for dollar from the program's funds up to the annual maximum. Each university is entitled to a prorated share (based on their share of University Operating Grants) of the annual allocation.

The universities use the private sector donations and Matching Program funds to establish scholarships and bursaries, endow chairs, purchase equipment, and fund special research initiatives and capital projects.

Private sector donations in 1988/89 totalled $10.66 million. Matching funds provided by the Program were $10 million.

Fund for Excellence in Education

The Fund for Excellence in Education (FEE) was announced in February 1986 to provide additional funding for special projects in British Columbia universities, colleges, and institutes. This three-year plan, of which 1988/89 was the final year, provided funds over and above base Operating Grants for more than one hundred projects. These uses included faculty adjustments, research activities, library acquisitions, Centres of Excellence, equipment, and Business Development Centres.

Over its three-year lifetime, FEE funding totalled almost $50 million: $11 million in 1986/87, $22 million in 1987/88, and $17 million in 1988/89.

Capital projects

The post-secondary educational system in the province operates out of 50 to 60 facilities throughout the province. The total area of these facilities is nearly 2 square kilometres, and in 1988/89 the replacement value of the structures and their contents was nearly $3 billion.

To maintain and expand this plant requires substantial annual capital expenditure for three purposes:

- construction of new facilities
- maintenance of and improvements to existing facilities (public works and renovations)
- purchase of capital furnishings and equipment.

In 1988/89, planning approval was given for five major projects and completion approval for seven other large projects, for a total of $69 million. Additional equipment allocations of $1.25 million were made over and above normal equipment provisions within the main capital project budgets.

New courses in colleges and institutes

Colleges and institutes may add new courses or change existing ones by making program proposals to the Ministry. Ministry staff review these proposals and assess the need, demand and ongoing operational and capital costs associated with the proposal. Once approved, new programs are incorporated into the funded profile of programs for that institution.

During 1988/89, 48 new programs with start-up and equipment costs of $1.5 million and annual costs of $4.3 million were funded in British Columbia colleges and institutes. These programs represent an additional 666 full-time equivalent students.

Some of these new programs are as follows:

- a course on the handling, moving, and storage of hazardous and toxic materials at the Pacific Marine Training Institute
- a Japanese Cuisine program, a Security Alarm Installer program, and a two-year diploma program in Jewelry Art and Design at Vancouver Community College
- four new Nursing Transfer programs to address the continuing shortage of registered nurses and to provide access to nursing education in the regions served by East Kootenay, Fraser Valley, Northern Lights and Northwest Community Colleges
- two programs at Camosun College and Capilano College providing skills needed in dealing with growing Pacific Rim trade opportunities
- tourism management programs at Camosun and Cariboo Colleges
- trades programs at Camosun (Commercial Transport and Plumbing) and Selkirk (Automotive Systems Technician) Colleges
- four programs providing vocational training opportunities for adults with special needs at Camosun, Kwantlen, Selkirk, and Vancouver Community Colleges.

In addition, many changes were made to existing programs in colleges and institutes in 1988-89. Several existing technical and apprentice programs were restructured; co-ordinators were appointed to streamline clusters of related programs; and new program support materials were developed.

PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION

The Division is responsible for how well the post-secondary institutions perform as an overall system, and it undertakes planning and co-ordination to accomplish this. In 1988-89 the Policy, Planning and Legislation Branch had the highest level of reponsibility for planning, co-ordination, and drafting legislation and for representing the Division both within government and internationally.

During the year the adoption of the innovative Access For All strategy made it necessary to change the Ministry's long-range planning process for post-secondary education. Policy and Planning staff, in keeping with their planning role for the whole Ministry, began to develop the required new long-range plans.

A number of significant activities occurred during the year in international education, intergovernmental initiatives, and new legislation.

International education projects

The Ministry, through the International Education Branch, helps with the delivery of post-secondary education services that will enhance academic, cultural, and economic ties with other nations, in particular with the Asia Pacific countries.

In 1988-89, British Columbia's public post-secondary institutions were involved in more than 53 international education projects valued in excess of $48 million. Prominent areas of participation were English language training, technical, vocational, and instructor training, distance education, and human resource development.

Highlights of these projects during the year included the following:

- a proposal writing fund was established to underwrite institutional proposal writing costs associated with overseas training projects
- the Branch supported the development of a discussion paper on "Post-Secondary International Education in British Columbia", which identified the major issues in international education in the province
- in September 1988, the Branch, in collaboration with the World Bank, conducted a seminar for senior government officials from selected Asia Pacific nations on the application of educational technology in distance education and vocational simulations
- video and print materials promoting the Province's post-secondary education system in international education were developed as part of an enhanced, co-ordinated overseas marketing strategy
- in January 1989, representatives from the Ministry and ten post-secondary institutions attended the Third Annual BC Hong Kong Education Fair. The fair enabled institutions to promote their services to the Hong Kong public.

Intergovernmental initiatives

There are a number of agreements between British Columbia and other jurisdictions that benefit post-secondary students in the province. These include 12 federal-provincial agreements, five interprovincial agreements, and an international agreement.

In 1988-89 the Canada-British Columbia Agreement on Training was extended for another year. Under this agreement the federal government in 1988-89 allocated $31 million for direct purchase of pre-vocational and vocational training in BC colleges and institutes for nearly 7,500 apprentices and 6,100 adults.

The federal government also helped fund additional courses in basic education, language, and vocational skills as well as several new programs and many additional courses in existing programs aimed at specific community needs.

Legislation

The new Trinity Western University Foundation Act and a revised Science Council Act were drafted for introduction during the Spring 1988 legislative session.

Trinity Western Foundation Act:

This university based in Langley was established as an "agent of the crown" to encourage private contributions to its endowment.

New Science Council Act:

The amendments to the existing Science Council Act were designed to broaden the mandate of the Science Council of British Columbia to address the growing importance of applied scientific research to British Columbia's economy. Specifically the changes addressed the issues of technology transfer between university and industry, the retention of highly skilled research personnel, and the promotion of the industrial, economic, and social development of the province.

Universities, Colleges & Institutes

DETAILED INFORMATION ON POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Universities

British Columbia's three main public universities--the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria--offered programs to about 55,000 full- and part-time students in 1988-89. These three universities provided 75 per cent of university-level education in British Columbia, while the Open University and the colleges accounted for the remainder.

Enrolment:

As of November 1, 1988, the 55,000 enrolment (full- and part-time) at the three main public universities was an increase of 3 per cent above the year before. The 37,000 full-time students accounted for 69 per cent of the total, while over 7,000 graduate students accounted for 13 per cent of the total. "Full-time equivalent" (FTE) enrolment, on which comparisons are best made, was almost exactly 45,000, also an increase of 3 per cent above the year before.

These numbers substantially understate the actual university-level enrolment in the province. To them might be added (in FTEs) the students taking academic courses in the Open Learning Agency (1,000) and in the colleges (15,000), to make a total university-level enrolment in the province of 61,000 full-time equivalent students.

Table 1 shows how enrolments in the three main public universities have increased since 1986-87.

British Columbia Universities

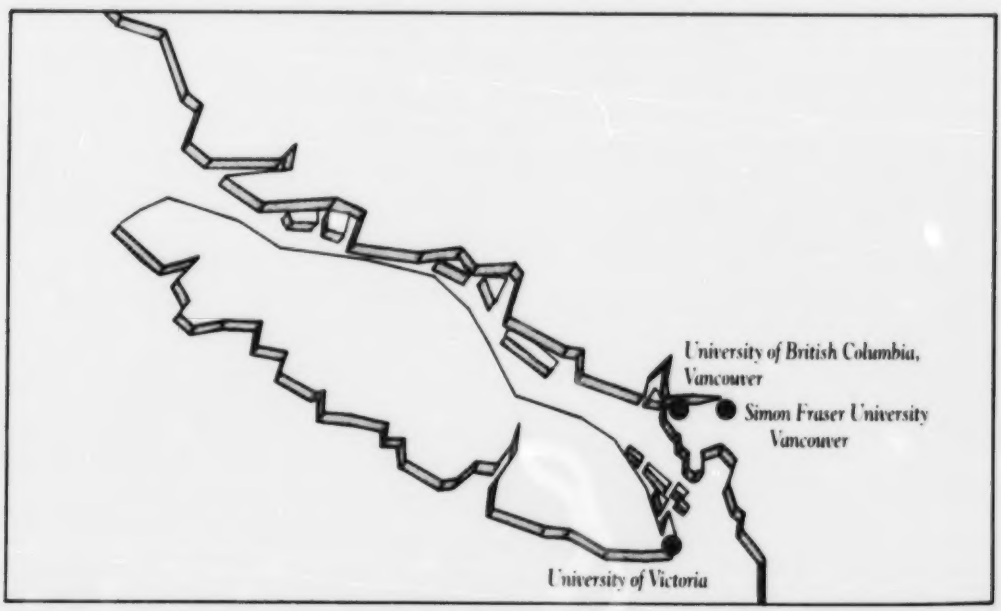


Table 1
University enrolments 1986-89 (fall headcounts)

	1986	1987	1988
Full-time	▼	▼	▼
Undergraduate			
UBC	17,780	17,747	18,260
SFU	5,857	6,413	6,667
UVic	6,383	6,718	7004
Total	**30,020**	**30,878**	**31,931**
Graduate			
UBC	3,037	3,143	3,516
SFU	1,064	1,162	1,213
UVic	827	862	932
Total	**4,928**	**5,167**	**5,461**
Total full-time	**34,948**	**36,045**	**37,392**
Part-time	▼	▼	▼
Undergraduate			
UBC	5,125	5,475	5,393
SFU	5,554	5,991	6,026
UVic	3,448	4,121	4,178
Total	**14,127**	**15,587**	**15,597**
Graduate			
UBC	916	924	880
SFU	394	332	333
UVic	166	303	364
Total	**1,476**	**1,559**	**1,577**
Total part-time	**15,603**	**17,146**	**17,174**
Total headcount	**50,552**	**53,196**	**54,566**

Tuition fees:

In the 1988-89 academic year tuition fees for full-time students with Canadian citizenship entering first year arts at selected universities were $1,455 at University of British Columbia and $1,470 at Simon Fraser University and University of Victoria, and only $870 for two semesters at Open University. Fee increases over the previous year at the University of British Columbia averaged 5 per cent and at Simon Fraser University, the University of Victoria, and the Open University 4 per cent.

Provincial operating grants:

Provincial operating grants to universities in 1988-89 totalled $328 million and made up 56 per cent of total university operating income (Table 2). The balance of university income came from tuition revenue, research income, capital contributions, and other sources.

The provincial government also contributed $255 million in capital grants to the universities in 1988-89.

University Matching Program grants:

In 1988-89 under the University Matching Program, private donations of more than $10 million were matched by $10 million in provincial funding to establish professorial chairs and upgrade teaching equipment and facilities at the three universities. Table 3 shows how these funds were allocated and used.

Colleges and institutes

In 1988-89 British Columbia's 15 colleges, three institutes, and the Open Learning Agency offered a wide variety of programs to more than 78,000 students of all ages throughout the province.

The colleges provided courses of study specially tailored to the needs of their student populations and geographic areas. They offered courses in four main fields: academic, career-technical, vocational, and adult basic education-continuing education.

The three institutes are all located in the Lower Mainland area and unlike the colleges have a province-wide mandate, offering highly specialized courses.

Table 2

General university operating grants 1986-89 ($ millions)

	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89
UBC	177	185	194
SFU	65	69	73
UVic	56	58	61
Total	**298**	**312**	**328**

Table 3

The University Matching Program funded 50 per cent of the cost of the following investments by BC universities in 1988/89

University of British Columbia:	
Chair in Viral Diseases of Children	
Chair in Cardiology	
Chair in Liveable Environments and Regional Landscapes	
Chair in Soil Biology	
Chair in Nursing Practice and Research	
Hugh Keenleyside Chair in Canadian Diplomacy	
Chair in Spinal Cord Physiology	
Nemetz Chair in Legal History	
Chair in Schizophrenia	
Chair in Geriatric Dentistry	
Chair in Multicultural Education	
Chair in Special Education	
Each at $1,000,000	
TOTAL (12 professorial chairs)	**$12,000,000**
Simon Fraser University:	
Scholarships and Bursary Endowments	$434,310
Endowed Chairs, Professorships, Fellowships and Lectureships	$609,447
Liberal Studies Program	$838,000
Harbour Centre Construction and Equipment	$1,618,243
Capital Equipment for Teaching and Research	$500,000
TOTAL	**$4,000,000**
University of Victoria:	
Construction of Day Care Facilities	$300,000
Endowed Scholarships, Bursaries and Fellowships	$1,138,872
Equipment	$221,772
IBM Hardware and Software	$2,339,356
TOTAL	**$4,000,000**

Table 4

Institute and college enrolments 1986-89 (headcounts)

	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89
Institutes	▼	▼	▼
BC Institute of Technology	13,851	15,268	15,371
Emily Carr	657	1,026	994
Open Learning	5,967	5,113	5,166
Pacific MarineTraining Institute	134	140	205
Subtotal	**20,609**	**21,547**	**21,736**
Colleges	▼	▼	▼
Camosun	4,514	4,617	5,145
Capilano	4,021	4,413	4,918
Cariboo	3,580	4,084	3,934
Douglas	4,610	5,177	5,739
East Kootenay	966	897	970
Fraser Valley	2,514	2,605	3,028
Kwantlen	3,807	4,256	4,725
Malaspina	3,115	3,408	3,556
New Caledonia	2,545	2,809	2,711
North Island	2,410	3,553	3,675
Northern Lights	1,016	1,075	978
Northwest	958	992	954
Okanagan	4,102	4,268	4,589
Selkirk	1,340	1,484	1,595
Vancouver	10,008	10,642	10,058
Subtotal	**49,506**	**54,280**	**56,575**
Total	**70,115**	**75,827**	**78,311**

NOTE:
In 1988-89 the Open Learning Institute became the Open Learning Agency and ceased to be an institute.

Universities, Colleges & Institutes

Enrolment:

In 1988-89, student enrolment (full- and part-time) in the colleges was 55,000, in the institutes 17,000 and in the Open Learning Agency, 5,000, for a total "headcount" of 78,000 (Table 4).

The total college and institute headcount translates into approximately 51,000 full-time equivalent students. Of these, 15,000 are in academic courses and the remaining 36,000 in non- academic courses (Table 5).

Therefore, in 1988-89 the post-secondary education system as a whole had about 97,000 full-time equivalent students in total, of which 63 per cent (61,000) were in academic courses and 37 per cent (36,000) were in non-academic courses.

The types of programs offered by colleges and institutes in 1988-89, in order of size by full-time equivalent enrolment, were as follows:

- Career-technical (30%)
- Academic (university transfer) (29%)
- Vocational (22%)
- Adult basic education (13%).

The remaining 6 per cent of FTE enrolment in 1988-89 was shared about equally between adult evening classes and apprenticeship programs.

Tuition fees:

On average in 1988-89 the fees for two semesters in colleges for vocational programs were $800 (up 10 per cent) and for non-vocational programs $773 (up 8 per cent). In institutes, the fees for two semesters for vocational programs averaged $1,090 (up 16 per cent) and for non-vocational programs $1,107 (up 13 per cent).

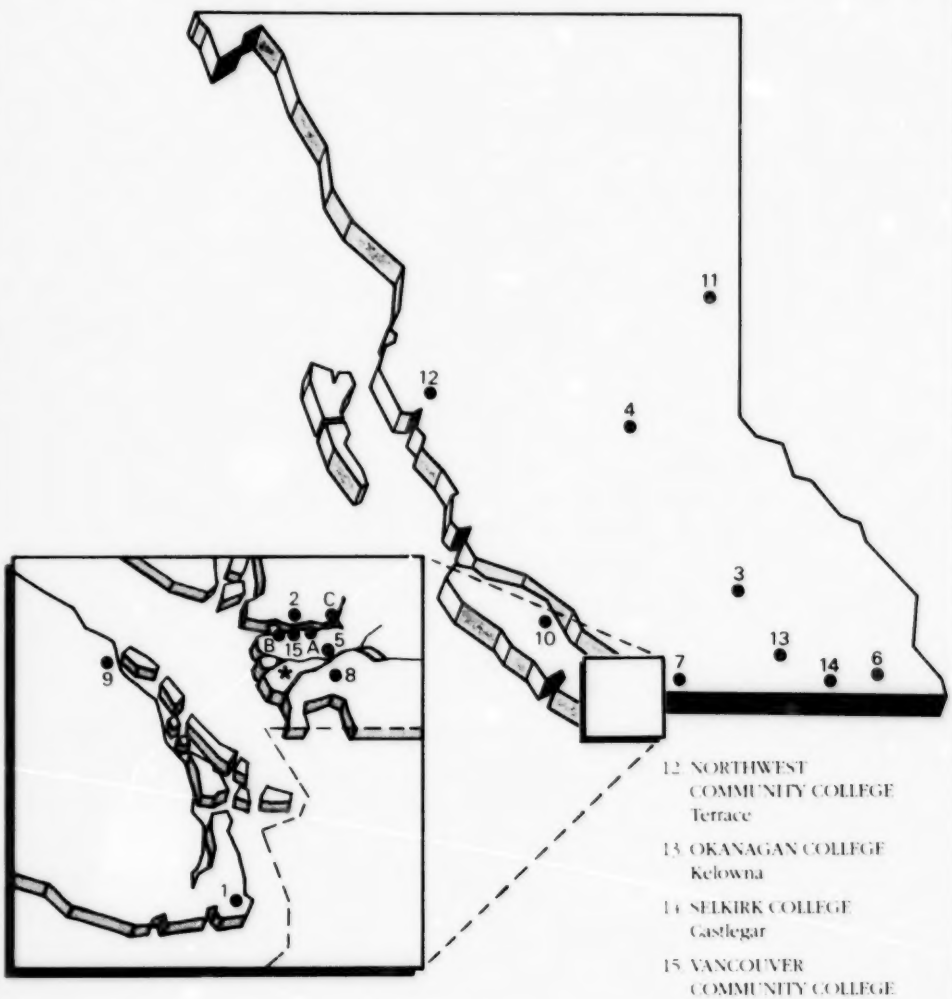
Table 5

Full-time equivalent enrolment by program area in colleges and institutes 1986-89

Program area	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89
Career-technical	14,987	15,771	15,235
Academic	12,500	13,707	15,174
Vocational	11,225	10,975	11,226
Adult basic education	6,574	6,668	6,677
Night school	1,504	1,843	1,843
Apprenticeship	695	617	1,386
Total	**47,485**	**49,581**	**51,541**

NOTE: Statistics include Open College but exclude Open University.

British Columbia Colleges and Institutes



COLLEGES

1. CAMOSUN COLLEGE
Victoria

2. CAPILANO COLLEGE
North Vancouver

3. CARIBOO COLLEGE
Kamloops

4. COLLEGE OF
NEW CALEDONIA
Prince George

5. DOUGLAS COLLEGE
New Westminster

6. EAST KOOTENAY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Cranbrook

7. FRASER VALLEY COLLEGE
Abbotsford - Chilliwack

8. KWANTLEN COLLEGE
Surrey

9. MALASPINA COLLEGE
Nanaimo

10. NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE
Comox

11. NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE
Dawson Creek

12. NORTHWEST
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Terrace

13. OKANAGAN COLLEGE
Kelowna

14. SELKIRK COLLEGE
Castlegar

15. VANCOUVER
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Vancouver

PROVINCIAL INSTITUTES

A. B.C. INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY
Burnaby

B. EMILY CARR COLLEGE
OF ART AND DESIGN
Vancouver

C. PACIFIC MARINE
TRAINING INSTITUTE
North Vancouver

★ OPEN LEARNING AGENCY
Vancouver

Provincial grants:

The provincial government provided approximately 80 per cent of the colleges' and institutes' operating funding through formula funding and the Program Profile Process (Table 6). The remaining 20 per cent came from student fees, investment income, and donations.

The capital grants provided to the colleges and institutes in 1988/89 amounted to $43.5 million.

Student financial assistance

In 1988/89, the Ministry supported post-secondary students with loans and grants under a variety of programs. About $137 million was provided under the federal/provincial student assistance programs, and an additional $19 million in grants under eleven special BC award programs.

British Columbia Student Assistance Program:

The British Columbia Student Assistance Program (BCSAP) is an overall program of loans and grants comprising several individual programs, all administered by the province:

- the Canada Student Loans Program, in which the federal government guarantees and pays the interest on student loans
- the British Columbia Student Loans Program, in which the BC government guarantees and pays the interest on student loans (at a cost of about $4 million in 1988/89)
- two British Columbia grant programs: for first- and second-year students (Equalization Payments) and students preparing for colleges (Supplemental Fund). In 1988/89 these programs cost the province more than $16 million.

As described earlier, in 1988/89 large increases were made in award ceilings and consequently in the awards made under these programs.

Special provincial award programs:

About $19 million in special grants were awarded by the BC government in 1988/89 to students of post-secondary institutions. Eleven grant programs were involved, which can be placed in three groups according to the amount of total financial commitment:

- ***Loan remission program***

  Upon graduation, students were eligible to receive remission on their outstanding student loans in amounts greater than debt ceilings of $12,000 for a first degree and $16,000 for a second or professional degree.

  In effect, the BC government pays off the amounts of their loans over these ceilings, including any Canada Student Loans.

  In 1988/89, 2,324 graduates received remissions totalling more than $7 million.

- ***Four large grant programs***

  Nearly $10 million in grants were made under four large programs:

Table 6

General operating grants to colleges and institutes 1986-89 ($ millions)

	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89
Institutes	▼	▼	▼
BC Institute of Technology	52	55	60
Emily Carr	5	5	5
Open Learning	5	6	15*
Pacific Marine Training Institute	2	2	2
Subtotal	**63**	**67**	**82**
Colleges	▼	▼	▼
Camosun	17	18	22
Capilano	12	13	14
Cariboo	13	13	15
Douglas	15	17	18
East Kootenay	5	5	5
Fraser Valley	8	9	9
Kwantlen	13	14	15
Malaspina	13	14	15
New Caledonia	11	12	12
North Island	6	7	8
Northern Lights	6	6	7
Northwest	6	6	6
Okanagan	14	15	16
Selkirk	10	10	10
Vancouver	40	42	44
Subtotal	**189**	**201**	**217**
Total	**253**	**268**	**298**

NOTE:
Because of rounding, columns may not add.

* In 1988-89 the Open Learning Institute merged with the Knowledge Network to become the Open Learning Agency, and operating grants increased accordingly.

Universities, Colleges & Institutes

- **Work Study**
  provided employment opportunities for about 8,000 needy students both on and off campus
  ($3.1 million)
- **Graduate Student Teaching and Research Assistantships**
  provided matching funds to the three universities to employ graduate students as teaching or research assistants
  ($2.4 million)
- **Small Entrepreneurial Co-operative Education Grant**
  enabled about 1,000 post-secondary students in co-operative education programs to combine career experience with formal education
  ($2.3 million)
- **Matching Endowment Fund**
  a new program to encourage private donations matched private gifts to endow scholarships and bursaries in post-secondary institution.
  ($2.0 million)

• ***Six smaller grant programs***

About $1.6 million in grants were made under six smaller programs:

- **University Sports Awards**
  awards of $1,000 each were made to 543 university athletes participating on university teams in recognized intercollegiate athletic program.
  ($543,000)
- **Adult Basic Education Student Assistance**
  2,035 students enrolled in academic upgrading and English language training programs in colleges and secondary schools received assistance for tuition, books, daycare, and transportation
  ($509,000)
- **Forgivable Loans for Disabled Students**
  physically disabled students were given assistance for special services and equipment to enrol in post-secondary institutions
  ($250,000 made available)
- **United World Scholarships**
  12 students received support to attend World Colleges, including Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific, the United World College of the Atlantic, and the United World College of the Adriatic
  ($177,000)
- **Student Society Emergency Aid Fund**
  matched funds provided by student societies to help needy students in post-secondary institutions
  ($93,000)
- **Premier's Excellence Award**
  a $5,000 scholarship was awarded for scholastic achievement and community school service to the top Grade 12 student in each BC college region who subsequently enrolled in a BC post-secondary institution.
  ($92,000)

Science & Technology

Enhancement of the scientific and technological capabilities of the province is the goal of the Ministry's Science and Technology Division. Guiding the Division's work towards this goal is the British Columbia Science and Technology policy, which was approved by Cabinet in 1988. This policy can be summarized in four main objectives:

New British Columbia Science and Technology Policy

Responsibilities of the Science and Technology Division:

1. Support the use and development of technological innovations that-
   - build on existing strengths and capabilities
   - have export potential
2. Encourage the use of science and technology to optimize the quality of life for British Columbians through protecting and improving our natural, man-made, and cultural environments, and do so in a way that produces products and services that can be exported.
3. Recognize the importance of basic research, and encourage applied research of an international calibre in areas that contribute significantly to British Columbia's economic development and competitiveness.
4. Foster entrepreneurial enterprises and encourage partnerships among post-secondary institutions, government, industry, and labour that will promote technology transfer and encourage commercialization of the results of our basic and applied research.
5. Support the development of marketing programs that take advantage of British Columbia's unique geographical location and cultural makeup.
6. Strengthen the science and technology components at all levels of the educational system so that scientific and technological literacy is improved, more people are attracted to careers in science and technology, and our universities continue to produce graduates and research of the highest possible calibre.
7. Encourage government, institutions, industry and labour to communicate the benefits of science and technology to the general public so that the public supports science and technology policies and initiatives.
8. Make educational programs available in science and technology to enable retraining, upgrading and acquisition of new knowledge, to ensure an educated and adaptable work force in the trades and the professions.
9. Provide a level of direct governmental financial support for technology-intensive industries that will enable British Columbia to be competitive nationally and internationally.

- to assist research and technology development
- to develop the province's human resources through training and education
- to develop entrepreneurial opportunities and partnerships among post-secondary institutions, government, industry, and labour
- to promote sci[illegible] awareness.

In 1988/89 the Division spent more than $30 million in pursuit of these objectives. This support was made available through programs such as the Science and Technology Development Fund and the Technology Assistance Program. It was administered through agencies such as the Science Council of British Columbia, BC Research Corporation (formerly the BC Research Council), and the Discovery Foundation.

About 10 per cent of the expenditure, $3.1 million, evoked matching federal grants through a federal/provincial cost- sharing plan. Under that plan, the Canada/BC Subsidiary Agreement on Science and Technology Development, joint expenditures of $20 million over seven years (1985-1992) are being shared equally by the two levels of government.

During the year the Premier's Advisory Council on Science and Technology, supported by the Division's policy and planning staff, translated strategic considerations for science and technology development into concrete recommendations in crucial areas, such as the TRIUMF-KAON Project, the Wireless Communications Foundation, the Canadian Space Plan, free trade, and pharmaceutical research and development.

ASSISTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

In 1988/89, accomplishments in research and development support occurred in the following areas:

- the TRIUMF-KAON Project
- the Science and Technology Development Fund
- funding by other programs
- new federal/provincial R & D initiatives.

The TRIUMF-KAON Project

The TRIUMF-KAON Project has become British Columbia's top scientific priority.

The Tri-University Meson Facility (TRIUMF) at the University of British Columbia is already the most important research agency for subatomic physics in Canada. The Project will make the TRIUMF particle accelerator into one of a network of seven or eight supermachines around the world -- including the Superconducting Super Collider in the United States, the LEP facility at CERN in Switzerland, DESY in Germany, and others. This partnership in the 1990s and after will share the exploration of subatomic particles.

In this collective global enterprise the unique contribution of TRIUMF-KAON will be to lead the exploration of the second generation of "quarks", nature's fundamental building blocks.

The expanded accelerator will concentrate on producing large, researchable quantities of "strange quarks", which are most accessible as components of larger particles called kaons. Because of its ability to generate large numbers of kaons, TRIUMF-KAON is sometimes referred to as "the KAON Factory".

TRIUMF-KAON not only will display and measure the properties of the strange quark but also will use the beam of kaons with their strange quarks as a probe to explore other particles. At the same time, the reactions involved in making kaons will generate many other kinds of fundamental particles invaluable for collateral research projects.

While creating in British Columbia a world centre of subatomic research, TRIUMF-KAON will bring many associated benefits. For example, the $571 million construction project will result in 19,000 person-years of employment and an additional 3,000 jobs, many of them highly skilled, during operations.

Highlights of TRIUMF-KAON in 1988-89 included:

- identification of the project as BC's highest science and technology priority
- agreement that the provincial government will contribute $90 million towards the cost of the project, subject to federal government support
- agreement by the federal and provincial governments to share the cost of an $11 million engineering design and impact study
- international consultations to confirm support for the project in the scientific community.

The Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF)

The purpose of the STDF is to encourage innovation and progress in industry in British Columbia by helping finance R & D in areas identified as priorities for economic development. The overwhelming response to the program has shown a growing commitment to research and development by business in the province. The program is already credited with having a major impact in promoting science and technology in BC and in maintaining the province's competitiveness in a changing global economy.

In the 1988-89 competition for grants from the STDF, nearly $8.4 million was approved for 80 projects.

In addition, the Fund dedicated $2 million to enhance the Science Council's Assistance Grants for Applied Research program, which in 1988-89 funded 90 applied research programs in a broad spectrum from agriculture and food to computers and software. During the year the STDF also supported a number of human resource and science awareness initiatives described later.

Funding by other programs

Support given under several other programs counted achievements in 1988-89:

Technology Assistance Program:

The Technology Assistance Program provided BC Research Corporation with $573,000 to help firms solve technological problems. This funding, combined with an additional $568,000 in research spending, enabled BC Research to complete 125 projects involving 96 companies in areas ranging from product testing to process development.

Targeted Research and Development Program:

The Targeted Research and Development program provided BC Research with a total of $1 million for research in five areas: fish food processing ($350,000), waste management ($100,000), ocean engineering ($100,000), advanced materials ($200,000), and assistance to small- and medium-sized business ($250,000).

With the help of this support:

- the BC Food Technology Center completed its first year of operation in which it initiated projects with 35 companies and handled 240 inquires from industry
- BC Research improved its expertise in waste legislation
- The Ocean Engineering Center was expanded
- nine Industrial Technology Advisors made over 100 visits a month to companies and managed more than 250 company assistance projects.

Health Development Fund:

In 1988/89 the Health Development Fund was established by the Ministry in conjunction with the Ministry of Health with funds made available as a result of amendments to the federal Patent Act. This fund, which is delivered via public competitions held by the Science Council of British Columbia and the BC Health Care Research Foundation, provides about $2.9 million annually for health care research and development.

Advanced Systems Institute Fund:

With Ministry support and equal federal funding, the Advanced Systems Institute set up a research and development fund of $650,000. The Institute also assisted 14 institute fellows who each attracted approximately $150,000 in additional federal and industry funding.

New federal-provincial R & D initiatives

In 1988/89 the government launched three important R & D initiatives in science and technology:

RADARSAT:

During the year the RADARSAT agreement was negotiated with the federal government. The agreement is to develop jointly a remote- sensing satellite that will use advanced synthetic aperture radar to collect data about surface conditions on the earth even where they are obscured by clouds or darkness. The project will generate $15 million in revenue for the province and result in 150 direct jobs.

Canadian Space Program:

The Science and Technology Division was given the responsibility of co-ordinating British Columbia's role in the Canadian Space Program (the federal government's participation in the United States Space Station Project and several related Canadian projects). Of the planned $1.5 billion in federal spending on the program over the next 10 years, 10 per cent is designated for the province.

DEVELOPING HUMAN RESOURCES

In fields of science and technology especially, the knowledge and skills of the work force are vital to economic development. Though a good deal of research and development funding finds its way to enhancement of human resources, the Ministry also directly funds a number of human resource programs:

- Graduate Research Engineering and Technology (GREAT) grants were awarded to 57 students at the three universities to support the completion of their degrees, in co-operation with industry in the areas of science or engineering

- Industrial Postdoctoral Fellowships (IPDF) worth $25,000 each were granted to place 13 recent PhDs in industry.
- Science and Technology Awards for Returning Students (STARS) worth $25,000 each were granted to five mature students to enable them to return to university and update graduate degrees in science or engineering
- through the Advanced Systems Institute's scholarship top-up program, 22 graduate students in British Columbia were given funding assistance
- through the Discovery Foundation, construction was made possible of two new buildings with a total of more than 13,000 square metres in floor area at the British Columbia Institute of Technology park to house the Open Learning Agency and Prime Mover Controls.

DEVELOPING ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITIES

In 1988-89 the government developed opportunities for entrepreneurship through the Discovery Foundation and through the Canada-British Columbia Science and Technology Subagreement.

Discovery Foundation

With $2.3 million in provincial government support in 1988-89, the Discovery Foundation continued to promote science and technology for economic development:

- a total of $2.1 million in provincial funds were advanced as venture capital by Discovery Enterprise Inc. to 12 high tech companies with promising innovations in areas such as robotics, software engineering, and manufacturing
- The Discovery Innovation Centre, whose operations were funded through the Ministry, handled 5,000 to 6,000 inquiries. It also distributed $440,000 in National Research Council grants to assist in the commercialization of 69 products ranging from exercise equipment to voice recognition software.

Canada/British Columbia Science and Technology Subagreement

In 1988-89, under this federal-provincial plan, $3.1 million in provincial money and an equal amount in federal money was used to facilitate technology transfer and entrepreneurial innovation:

- University-Industry Liaison Offices facilitated 56 technical/patent disclosures, 32 patents granted or received, 30 trademarks and copyrights registered or pending, 36 licences either under negotiation or negotiated, and 560 patent searches
- negotiations were conducted to initiate Pharmacal, which will establish a bulk fine pharmaceutical processing plant, a bioprocessing plant, and a clean room. Upon completion, the project is expected to create 60 full-time jobs
- The Market Assessment of Research Technology (MART) grants program was initiated to provide grants for comprehensive studies of market needs and opportunities. The goal of MART is to improve success in the transfer of technology to the commercial sector. Thirteen applications totaling $142,655 were approved in the first six months of the program.

Science & Technology

SCIENCE AWARENESS

Public awareness of, and attitudes towards current issues in science and technology will be decisive in the future course of BC's economic development. In line with the new science and technology policy, promotion of science awareness is a government priority.

In 1988/89 the Ministry commissioned a study to determine current levels of public awareness and to recommend possible initiatives, in preparation for a full-scale public awareness program.

During the year as well, the Ministry promoted science among youth:

- the Ministry joined with the Science Council in support of school and regional science fairs, fostering scientific interest in young people and providing thousands of students a chance to demonstrate their imagination and scientific skills
- the Scientists in the Schools program, financed by the Science and Technology Development Fund, facilitated visits from 186 volunteer scientists to nearly 30,000 school children in its first quarter of operation.

In addition, the Ministry helped finance and co-ordinate several events of the kind that influence public understanding of science and technology. These included the following:

- International Business Development and Technology Trade Forums organized by the Canadian Advanced Technology Association in cooperation with the American Electronics Association
- the "Benefiting from Technology" conference, which focused on developing an awareness, understanding, and acceptance of new technologies and lifestyles of the future
- the Science World Outreach program, which delivered informal science education roadshows and presentations to communities throughout the province
- the Airshow Canada Research and Development Symposium, which in 1989/90 would showcase British Columbia's interest and expertise in the area, was arranged and contracted.

Job Training, Apprenticeship & Labour Market Policy

The Ministry works on several fronts to improve British Columbia's human resources. It provides job training and apprenticeship programs that help employers and employees work together to improve skills. It also identifies and analyzes the leading trends in the province's labour market and uses the findings to develop longer-term policy.

JOB TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIP

Business growth and economic development require continual upgrading of workforce skills. In 1988-89 the Ministry continued to assist employers to maintain competitiveness through a variety of training and apprenticeship programs:

Training and Enterprise Centres (TECs)

In June 1988 the first Training and Enterprise Centre (TEC) in Canada opened in Kamloops. A British Columbia innovation, it combines under one roof the services of a number of public and private sector agencies providing assistance to employers seeking to improve the capabilities of their employees. This one-stop facility offers a variety of options in training, apprenticeship, employment support, and vocational rehabilitation.

The Kamloops Centre houses the following agencies: the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training, Cariboo College Educational Advising Services, the Open Learning Agency, Cariboo Management Centre, Thompson Country Community Futures, Thompson Enterprise Centre, and an extensive Business Resource Centre supplied by the Ministry of Regional Development.

In the next three years the Ministry plans to open several more TECs, each housing business agencies and services most suitable for its region. Moreover, many communities without TECs will be given access to the programs and services they offer through computer link-ups and itinerant staff as needed.

Training Investment Program

In 1988-89 emphasis began to shift away from traditional programs that emphasize job creation and wage subsidies to longer-range training requirements. A stronger, more stable economy and a recognition of the importance of training and human resource development were responsible for this shift.

The Training Investment Program shares the direct costs of employee training with employers, thus encouraging employers to introduce long-term training strategies for their employees.

Apprenticeship

In 1988-89 apprenticeship training continued to grow. There were 11,829 apprentices registered in the province, up from 10,515 the previous year. An additional 2,874 apprentices received certification; 1,105 apprentices and 163 journeymen received Interprovincial Certification; 378 journeymen received Welder's Certification; and 1,389 journeymen received Trades Qualification Certification.

Three new trades were introduced under Trades Qualification in 1988-89: Community Antenna TV, Hydraulic Crane Operator, and Mobile Crane Operator.

Job Training, Apprenticeship & Labour Market Policy

With the strength of the economy in 1988/89, there is every reason to believe that the apprenticeship system will grow even stronger in the next year.

Training Opportunities Program

In 1988/89 the Training Opportunities Program provided employers with support to hire and train new employees for 123 positions. These new employees were primarily persons with little or no work experience who required extra assistance in entering or re- entering the labour force.

Programs and services for the disabled

The Ministry in 1988/89 commissioned an extensive review of the delivery of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service to improve its programs and services to the disabled.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Service, which assists individuals with disabilities to obtain competitive employment and training, had approximately 2,000 persons registered in 1988/89. Services to these clients included assessment, counselling, education or training, purchase of technical aids, and job referral. The Vocational Rehabilitation Service included the Training Program for Disabled Persons, which provided pre- employment training for the private sector, and the Personal Placement Program, which provided similar training within the provincial government.

Programs for students and youth

In 1988/89 three programs for students and youth continued:

- The Challenge '88 program helped more than 6,000 young people gain employment and training during summer months
- The Student Venture Loan Program provided 137 short-term, interest-free loans to help students with entrepreneurial projects
- The Youth Grants Program, sponsored by the British Columbia Youth Advisory Council, approved 30 projects, through which more than 6,000 young people benefited directly and tens of thousands of young people benefited indirectly. Many of these worthwhile projects focused on peer and crisis counselling and on prevention of alcohol and drug abuse.

Job Training, Apprenticeship & Labour Market Policy

LABOUR MARKET POLICY

By analyzing labour market issues and trends and developing policy in relation to them, the Ministry encourages all employers and employees to become more sensitive and responsive in their planning to labour market conditions and trends.

Analyzing labour market issues and trends

In 1988-89, the Ministry identified and analyzed existing and projected labour market trends and issues and disseminated data and information. The year's projects included the following:

- analysis of the Kootenay Development Region Human Resource Survey to determine the skills available and the training requirements in the Region
- preparation of the "British Columbia Job Futures Handbook -- An Occupational Outlook to 1995", which describes almost 200 occupations and is used in schools and by vocational and employment counsellors and Ministry staff
- production of the Labour Market Information Bulletin, a monthly newsletter of labour market trends, issues, statistics, and analyses.

The Branch also consulted with private sector, voluntary, and community agencies on local labour market and vocational rehabilitation issues.

Formulating policy

In 1988-89, the Ministry developed policies on issues in such areas as youth in the labour market, women in training, adjustment, federal-provincial fiscal arrangements for disabled persons, supported employment, industry-based training, apprenticeship, and literacy in the workplace.

Specific initiatives during the year included:

- preparation of a discussion paper explaining the main labour market issues in British Columbia and the options for addressing them
- negotiations with the federal government for cost-sharing of vocational rehabilitation programs in colleges and institutes
- negotiation of a new federal-provincial Alcohol and Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Agreement (in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour and Consumer Services)
- co-ordination of the interministry development of a Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Persons (VRDP) Appeal Mechanism requirement
- preparation of a paper for the Federal Advisory Council on Adjustment outlining provincial concerns with federal adjustment programming.

As well, the Branch provided policy support and labour market information to several interministerial and federal-provincial committees and participated in negotiations leading to extensions of several intergovernmental agreements.

Women's Secretariat

Developing policies and programs that improve the social, economic and political standing of women in British Columbia is the mandate of the Women's Secretariat. In 1988/89 this mandate was carried out through activities in three areas:

- career development for women in the public service
- issues and programs for British Columbia women
- co-operative actions with the federal government.

Note:
The women's Secretariat was transferred to the Ministry of Government Services and Women's Programs effective November 1, 1989.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR WOMEN IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

To improve the status and advancement possibilities of female employees in the provincial public service, the Women's Secretariat developed Action Plans for individual ministries and met with deputy ministers to discuss these plans and exchange ideas. The Women's Secretariat also began development of a government-wide management program to establish government's commitment to the career development of women in the public service.

Several training programs to enhance professional development were initiated or expanded in 1988/89:

- a pilot training program initiated in 1987/88 was expanded. Four new courses were offered in addition to the six existing ones: Introduction to Supervision, Plateauing, Improving Performance Skills for Support Staff, and Effective Written Communication Skills. Courses were held in several regions of the province.
- training was upgraded for facilitators who led the on-going Taking Charge of Your Career course, and new facilitators were trained. Course manuals were updated.
- a Women and Management seminar was held in May 1988 for female managers Level 7 and above, and a report on ways to increase the number of senior female managers in the public service was prepared.
- a Networking Dinner for women managers Levels 3-12 was held in February 1989 to announce a series of noon-hour training sessions led by senior women in government which began in spring 1989.

Policy and planning activities to improve the role of women in the provincial public service centred on the following:

- Women's Secretariat development of a Work Plan for the coming year to increase the training and career development opportunities available to women in the public service
- participation in the interministry Working Group on Training and Career Development for Women in Government, which was established to assist in the implementation of the training initiatives proposed by the Women's Secretariat
- the interministry Working Group on Job Sharing was established by the Secretariat to work with Government Personnel Services Division and examine the implications of a government-wide policy on job sharing for men and women.

Women's Secretariat

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Women's Grants Programs provided grants for women's workshops, conferences, bursaries and training programs. In 1988-89 grants totalling $970,000 served 4,500 women through 44 projects. Steps were taken to increase the number of applications from northern and isolated communities and to speed up the grant approval process.

In addition to distributing grants, the Women's Secretariat accomplished the following in 1988-89:

- commissioned a study on the impacts of the Free Trade Agreement on women in British Columbia. The study provides government with recommendations to consider in developing trade adjustment assistance for women
- in co-operation with the Federal Business Development Bank, sponsored six regional conferences for businesswomen
- developed a list of potential female appointees to provincial boards and commissions. The Women's Secretariat continued to put forward names of qualified women as potential appointees to provincial boards, commissions, and other bodies.

Several brochures were produced by the Women's Secretariat for British Columbia women:

- The Women's Secretariat
- Women in Business: How to Get Financing
- Women in Business: Where to Get Help
- Women and Pensions: What You Should Know
- Women's Grants Program.

CO-OPERATIVE ACTIONS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Women's Secretariat is active in areas of key importance to women across the country. In 1988-89 these key areas included the following:

- native women and economic development: a provincial survey was conducted by the Women's Secretariat to discover the issues of concern to native women that relate to economic development. Issues identified included access to quality day care, assistance for abuse victims, pre-employment training, and training for women interested in small business.
- women's access to credit: a survey to assess women's access to credit across Canada was conducted by the Women's Secretariat. A scarcity of documented evidence did not allow for quantitative analysis, but qualitative evidence suggested that women may indeed encounter difficulties not experienced by men in obtaining loans.
- career counselling: The Women's Secretariat played an active role in a federal-provincial working group on this issue. A report completed in November 1988 recommends gender-free counselling initiatives that promote the occupational integration of girls and women.

FINANCIAL SERVICES BRANCH

The Financial Services Branch provides the following services:

- management of the financial function including: establishing and maintaining policies and procedures; conducting audits and compliance reviews; providing disbursement, accounting, payroll, financial reporting, revenue management, and control services for the Ministry
- budget co-ordination, preparation and submission, monitoring and variance analysis, financial planning, forecasting and control, and maintenance of the chart of accounts for all Ministry operations
- provision of financial representations relating to the Ministry's federal-provincial agreements; administration and preparation of claims on the federal government
- maintenance of an ongoing liaison with the various divisions of the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations, including the Office of the Comptroller General, Treasury Board, and other government agencies regarding matters of finance and financial administration
- provision of facility and support services throughout the Ministry, including space planning, allocation and leases, telecommunications, furniture and equipment control, vehicle fleet management, and courier/mail service.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS BRANCH

The Information Systems Branch assists the Ministry in meeting its business objectives by providing management and acquisition of information technology. The Branch consults with Ministry divisions to determine their needs and recommends systems direction, development, and budget based on those needs.

The Branch has two units which deliver three major functions:

- **Systems Development Unit.**
  This unit is responsible both for planning, data administration, and standards and for systems software development and maintenance. The unit prepares and maintains information system plans, including the Ministry Data Resource Management Plan, and ensures that policies and standards are in place to manage effectively all systems acquisitions, application development, and data access. Services for software development/maintenance are contracted and managed by the unit for all environments: mainframe, mini and micro.
- **Systems Operation and End-User Support Unit.**
  This unit ensures the operation of all Ministry hardware, including terminals, microcomputers, printers, communication devices, and networks. The unit recommends Ministry standards for such devices and handles all purchases, acquisitions, installation, training, and technical assistance.

PERSONNEL SERVICES BRANCH

The Personnel Services Branch provides consultative and administrative support services for the effective management of human resources within government guidelines. Ministry management is assisted in selecting, allocating, and maintaining a competent work force, with advice given on all matters relating to recruitment and selection, labour relations, accident prevention, benefit administration, classification, organizational design, and employee counselling.

The Ministry staffing level for 1988-89 was 301 full-time equivalents.
The Personnel Services Branch was a major participant in the Ministry reorganization, the development of position job descriptions, and the subsequent recruitment of employees.